

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2698

To improve teacher preparation at institutions of higher education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 1997

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To improve teacher preparation at institutions of higher education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TEACHER PREPARATION.**

4 (a) INITIAL TEACHER PREPARATION.—Part A of
5 title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
6 1102 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“PART A—INITIAL TEACHER PREPARATION**

8 **“SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; AND PURPOSES.**

9 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This part may be cited as the
10 “America’s Teacher Preparation Improvement Act”.

1 “(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following
2 findings:

3 “(1) No child should be placed in a classroom
4 with a teacher who has not been well prepared for
5 the demanding responsibilities of a professional
6 educator.

7 “(2) Federal law provides opportunities for
8 local schools to use Federal funds to upgrade the
9 skills of the teaching force through school-based pro-
10 fessional development, yet there has been virtually
11 no Federal commitment to help institutions of high-
12 er education upgrade future teachers’ preparation
13 programs.

14 “(3) Title V of the Higher Education Act of
15 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) (as in effect on the
16 day preceding the date of enactment of the Ameri-
17 ca’s Teacher Preparation Improvement Act) included
18 17 programs, that were authorized at \$598,000,000
19 for fiscal year 1993 and such sums as may be nec-
20 essary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years, for
21 the initial preparation of teachers.

22 “(4) To maintain the 1997 kindergarten
23 through grade 12 service levels in 2006, the Nation
24 will require approximately 190,000 additional teach-
25 ing positions. Teacher excellence must be encour-

1 aged, promoted, and supported if our Nation's stu-
2 dents are to succeed. Enrollments in elementary and
3 secondary schools are at the highest level in the Na-
4 tion's history and the enrollments are projected to
5 grow by approximately 10 percent from 1994 to
6 2006.

7 “(5) The median age of teachers is increasing
8 and many teachers will be approaching retirement
9 age just as the demand for teachers reaches its high-
10 est level. Such trends present a historic opportunity
11 for the initial training of teachers to meet the de-
12 mand for teachers.

13 “(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this part are—

14 “(1) to strengthen the capacity of institutions
15 of higher education offering approved programs to
16 encourage excellence in teachers by assisting the ap-
17 proved programs in meeting or exceeding the highest
18 State or professional standards for teacher
19 preparation;

20 “(2) to encourage partnerships between institu-
21 tions of higher education and preschools, kinder-
22 gartens, elementary schools, and secondary schools
23 to provide for systematic and professional student
24 training and induction;

1 “(3) to support programs for school paraprofes-
2 sionals and school support personnel to become cer-
3 tified or licensed teachers;

4 “(4) to recruit and support nontraditional indi-
5 viduals to enter the teaching profession and achieve
6 careers as certified or licensed teachers;

7 “(5) to encourage the recruitment of individuals
8 to teach in urban and rural areas;

9 “(6) to recruit, and support minorities seeking
10 to enter the teaching profession to achieve careers as
11 certified or licensed teachers; and

12 “(7) to encourage partnerships between institu-
13 tions of higher education and other entities to meet
14 the purposes described in paragraphs (1) through
15 (6).

16 **“SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.**

17 “In this part:

18 “(1) 2-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
19 CATION.—The term ‘2-year institution of higher
20 education’ means an institution of higher education
21 that awards an associate’s degree.

22 “(2) 4-YEAR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
23 CATION.—The term ‘4-year institution of higher
24 education’ means a public or private postsecondary
25 institution that—

1 “(A) awards a bachelor’s degree or higher
2 degree;

3 “(B) is an eligible institution for financial
4 assistance under title IV of this Act; and

5 “(C) has a teacher education program ap-
6 proved by the State.

7 “(3) APPROVED PROGRAM.—The term ‘ap-
8 proved program’ means a program of study ap-
9 proved by a State to prepare an individual to become
10 a certified or licensed teacher in the State.

11 “(4) CERTIFIED OR LICENSED TEACHER.—The
12 term ‘certified or licensed teacher’ means an individ-
13 ual who possesses a document certifying that the in-
14 dividual has met the requirements of a State for em-
15 ployment as a teacher in the preschools, kinder-
16 gartens, elementary schools, or secondary schools, in
17 the State.

18 “(5) PARTNERSHIP.—The term ‘partnership’
19 means a teacher preparation school, college, or de-
20 partment in partnership with 1 or more of the fol-
21 lowing entities:

22 “(A) A local educational agency.

23 “(B) A preschool, kindergarten, elementary
24 school, or secondary school.

1 “(C) A 2-year institution of higher
2 education.

3 “(D) An academic department or division
4 within an institution of higher education.

5 “(E) A nonprofit agency or organization.

6 “(F) Any other entity that will assist in
7 the achievement of the purposes of this title as
8 determined by the State educational agency.

9 “(6) INDUCTION.—The term ‘induction’ means
10 the provision of assistance to a student or teacher
11 during the period that begins with the student’s
12 training period and ends at the conclusion of the
13 second year of teaching.

14 “(7) KINDERGARTEN.—The term ‘kindergarten’
15 means a nonprofit institutional day or residential
16 school that provides kindergarten education, as de-
17 termined by State law.

18 “(8) PRESCHOOL.—The term ‘preschool’ means
19 a nonprofit institutional day or residential school
20 that provides preschool education, as determined by
21 State law.

22 “(9) SCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONAL.—The term
23 ‘school paraprofessional’ means an individual with at
24 least a secondary school diploma or its recognized
25 equivalent who is employed in a preschool, kinder-

1 garten, elementary school, or secondary school under
2 the supervision of a certified or licensed teacher.

3 “(10) SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL.—The
4 term ‘school support personnel’ means an individual
5 with at least a secondary school diploma or its rec-
6 ognized equivalent who is employed by a local edu-
7 cational agency.

8 “(11) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
9 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
10 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American
11 Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, the Repub-
12 lic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of
13 Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

14 “(12) TEACHER PREPARATION SCHOOL, COL-
15 LEGE, OR DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘teacher prepa-
16 ration school, college, or department’ means the
17 school, college, department, or other division within
18 an institution of higher education that specializes in
19 the training of individuals to serve as certified or li-
20 censed teachers.

21 **“SEC. 503. PROGRAM AUTHORITY.**

22 “(a) GRANTS BY THE SECRETARY.—For any fiscal
23 year for which the amount appropriated to carry out this
24 part does not equal or exceed \$50,000,000, the Secretary

1 is authorized to award grants to enhance initial teacher
2 preparation under section 504.

3 “(b) STATE GRANT PROGRAM.—

4 “(1) ALLOTMENT.—For any fiscal year for
5 which the amount appropriated to carry out this
6 part equals or exceeds \$50,000,000, the Secretary is
7 authorized to make allotments to State educational
8 agencies pursuant to paragraph (2) to enable the
9 agencies to award grants under section 504.

10 “(2) ALLOTMENT FORMULA.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
12 subparagraph (B), each State educational agen-
13 cy entering into an agreement under section
14 505 and having an application approved under
15 section 506 for a fiscal year shall receive an al-
16 lotment under this part for the fiscal year in an
17 amount that bears as nearly as possible the
18 same relation to the amount appropriated to
19 carry out this part for the fiscal year as the
20 amount the State educational agency received
21 under part B of title II of the Elementary and
22 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
23 6641 et seq.) for the fiscal year bears to the
24 amount received by all State educational agen-
25 cies under such part B for the fiscal year.

1 “(B) MINIMUM ALLOTMENT.—No State
2 educational agency shall receive an allotment
3 under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year in an
4 amount that is less than \$500,000.

5 “(c) ALLOCATION WITHIN STATES.—

6 “(1) GRANTS.—Each State educational agency
7 receiving an allotment under subsection (b) shall use
8 not less than 90 percent of the allotted funds to
9 award grants under section 504.

10 “(2) CONSULTATION.—Each State educational
11 agency awarding grants under this section shall con-
12 sult with representatives of the higher education
13 community in the State, including the State higher
14 education agency if such an agency exists, with re-
15 spect to awarding grants under section 504.

16 “(3) RESERVATION FOR STATE ACTIVITIES.—
17 From the amount allotted to a State educational
18 agency under subsection (b) and not used under
19 paragraph (1), not less than 7 percent of the
20 amount shall be used for State activities that the
21 State educational agency determines advance the
22 purposes of this part and are necessary to prepare
23 exceptional teachers, such as—

24 “(A) assisting local educational agencies in
25 filling teaching vacancies in urban and rural

1 areas, including filling the vacancies with indi-
2 viduals who have become certified or licensed
3 teachers pursuant to activities assisted under
4 this part;

5 “(B) supporting programs to encourage—

6 “(i) students to aspire to, and to pre-
7 pare for, teaching careers in preschools,
8 kindergartens, elementary schools, or sec-
9 ondary schools; and

10 “(ii) local educational agencies to re-
11 cruit qualified individuals for such teaching
12 careers in rural and urban areas;

13 “(C) reviewing teacher certification and li-
14 censure requirements to facilitate the transfer
15 of academic credit from 2-year institutions of
16 higher education to 4-year institutions of higher
17 education; and

18 “(D) developing new teacher assessments
19 in accordance with higher State standards for
20 teacher certification and licensure.

21 **“SEC. 504. GRANTS TO ENHANCE INITIAL TEACHER**
22 **PREPARATION.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or a State edu-
24 cational agency may award grants under this section, on
25 a competitive basis, to 4-year institutions of higher edu-

1 cation to establish or maintain partnerships to carry out
2 the activities described in subsection (b).

3 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

4 “(1) REQUIRED.—Grants under this section
5 shall be used as follows:

6 “(A) TEACHER PREPARATION.—To
7 strengthen approved programs. Such activities
8 may include—

9 “(i) cooperative arrangements between
10 teacher preparation schools, colleges, or de-
11 partments and other academic departments
12 or divisions within an institution of higher
13 education to strengthen an approved
14 program;

15 “(ii) programs designed to implement
16 the successful integration of technology
17 into teaching and learning;

18 “(iii) encouraging the improvement of
19 curriculum to provide additional prepara-
20 tion for new teachers to work with student
21 populations; and

22 “(iv) in consultation with local edu-
23 cational agencies, creating opportunities
24 for faculty at institutions of higher edu-
25 cation to engage in professional develop-

1 ment, including strengthening teaching
2 skills by increased exposure to local
3 preschools, kindergartens, elementary
4 schools, or secondary schools, or students
5 attending such schools.

6 “(B) INDUCTION EXPERIENCE.—To estab-
7 lish and sustain partnerships, for the purpose
8 of creating sites that provide the highest quality
9 induction experience for new teachers, among—

10 “(i) an institution of higher education;

11 and

12 “(ii) 1 or more preschools, kinder-
13 gartens, elementary schools, secondary
14 schools, or nonprofit agencies or organiza-
15 tions.

16 “(2) PERMISSIVE.—Grants under this section
17 may be used as follows:

18 “(A) TARGETED PROGRAMS.—To establish
19 rigorous, targeted programs for nontraditional
20 students who seek to become teachers. Such in-
21 dividuals may include school paraprofessionals,
22 former members of the Armed Forces who were
23 discharged or otherwise separated under honor-
24 able conditions, or other individuals seeking to
25 change careers. Such programs may differ from

1 programs for traditional students, but shall
2 meet or exceed the highest professional stand-
3 ards for approved programs.

4 “(B) RECRUITMENT.—To recruit individ-
5 uals to teach in urban and rural areas. Such ac-
6 tivities may include—

7 “(i) providing extended and multiple
8 clinical experiences for potential teachers
9 in urban or rural preschools, kinder-
10 gartens, elementary schools, or secondary
11 schools;

12 “(ii) establishing partnerships between
13 institutions of higher education offering
14 approved programs, and community groups
15 in urban and rural areas, to recruit indi-
16 viduals into teaching in the areas; and

17 “(iii) developing partnership agree-
18 ments between 4-year institutions of higher
19 education offering approved programs and
20 2-year institutions of higher education to
21 facilitate movement of future teachers
22 from the 2-year institutions of higher edu-
23 cation to the 4-year institutions of higher
24 education.

1 “(C) SYSTEM OF INITIAL TEACHER PREPA-
2 RATION.—To support partnerships, for the pur-
3 pose of establishing a system of initial teacher
4 preparation that meets or exceeds the highest
5 State or professional standards for teacher
6 preparation, among—

7 “(i) an institution of higher education
8 offering approved programs; and

9 “(ii) 1 or more preschools, kinder-
10 gartens, elementary schools, secondary
11 schools, community groups, 2-year institu-
12 tions of higher education, or nonprofit or-
13 ganizations.

14 **“SEC. 505. STATE AGREEMENTS AND APPLICATIONS.**

15 “(a) AGREEMENTS.—Each State educational agency
16 receiving an allotment under this part shall enter into an
17 agreement with the Secretary. Each such agreement shall
18 include provisions to ensure that—

19 “(1) the State educational agency will keep
20 such records and provide such information to the
21 Secretary as may be required for fiscal audit and
22 program evaluation;

23 “(2) the State educational agency will establish
24 a system for the evaluation of the activities assisted
25 under this part; and

1 “(3) all public and private institutions of higher
2 education offering approved programs will be eligible
3 to apply for and receive assistance under section
4 504.

5 “(b) STATE APPLICATIONS.—Each State desiring to
6 receive funds under this title shall, through its State edu-
7 cational agency, submit an application to the Secretary of
8 Education at such time and in such manner as the Sec-
9 retary shall require. Such application shall describe—

10 “(1) the manner in which funds under this title
11 for State activities and competitive grants will be
12 used to fulfill the purposes of this title;

13 “(2) the manner in which the activities and
14 projects supported by this title will advance and be
15 coordinated with statewide, standards-based reform,
16 including improved teaching and learning, by ena-
17 bling teachers to achieve the highest State or profes-
18 sional teaching standards and increasing the num-
19 bers of students who achieve high standards of per-
20 formance;

21 “(3) the manner in which the activities and
22 projects supported through this title will be coordi-
23 nated with State plans under Goals 2000: Educate
24 America Act and title I of the Elementary and Sec-
25 ondary Education Act of 1965, as well as other Fed-

1 eral and State sources of funding for professional
2 development; and

3 “(4) the criteria which will be used to deter-
4 mine the impact and effectiveness of the funds used
5 pursuant to this title.

6 **“SEC. 506. PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS; REPORT.**

7 “(a) PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each 4-year institution of
9 higher education desiring a grant under this part
10 shall submit an application to the Secretary or the
11 State educational agency, as appropriate, at such
12 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such in-
13 formation as the Secretary or State educational
14 agency, respectively, may require.

15 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
16 under paragraph (1) shall—

17 “(A) include a description of the members
18 of the partnership, the goals and intended out-
19 comes for the partnership, and the respective
20 roles and responsibilities of each of the mem-
21 bers of the partnership, including how grant re-
22 sources shall be allocated among the members
23 in order to carry out the roles and responsibil-
24 ities of the members under this part;

1 “(B) include a description of how the
2 members of the partnership will collaborate to
3 provide enhanced learning opportunities for
4 nontraditional students and preservice edu-
5 cators;

6 “(C) indicate how the proposed activities
7 will lead to meeting or achieving the highest
8 State or professional standards for teacher
9 preparation;

10 “(D) indicate how the proposed activities
11 will further the alignment of standards for
12 teacher preparation with the State’s standards
13 for the kindergarten through grade 12 schools
14 and students;

15 “(E) indicate how proposed activities are
16 linked to State goals for educational improve-
17 ment; and

18 “(F) indicate how the proposed activities
19 will reinforce Federal activities assisted under
20 part A of title II of the Elementary and Sec-
21 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6621
22 et seq.).

23 “(b) REPORT.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to assure Federal
25 accountability, a 4-year institution of higher edu-

1 cation that receives a grant under this part shall
2 submit a progress report to the Secretary or State
3 educational agency, as appropriate, that illustrates
4 the advancements made by the partnership regard-
5 ing the initial preparation of teachers.

6 “(2) SUBMISSION.—The report described in
7 paragraph (1) shall be submitted 3 years after the
8 date of enactment of the America’s Teacher Prepa-
9 ration Improvement Act and every 3 years there-
10 after.

11 **“SEC. 507. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.**

12 “A State educational agency, in utilizing the proceeds
13 of an allotment received under this part, shall maintain
14 the expenditures of the State for enhancing initial teacher
15 preparation, and for encouraging minority students to be-
16 come teachers, at a level equal to not less than the level
17 of such expenditures maintained by the State for the fiscal
18 year preceding the fiscal year for which the allotment is
19 received.

20 **“SEC. 508. PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOL CHILDREN**
21 **AND TEACHERS.**

22 “Private school children and teachers seeking to par-
23 ticipate in activities under this part shall be eligible for
24 such participation in the same manner and to the same
25 extent as private school children and teachers are eligible

1 to participate in activities under the Elementary and Sec-
 2 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).
 3 Nothing in this section shall affect the eligibility of such
 4 children and teachers to participate in any program under
 5 any other provision of this title.

6 **“SEC. 509. CONSTRUCTION.**

7 “Nothing in this part shall be construed to affect
 8 home schools.

9 **“SEC. 510. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; USE OF**
 10 **FUNDS TO SUPPORT MINORITY TEACHER RE-**
 11 **CRUITMENT.**

12 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
 13 this part \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 1998 and such sums
 14 as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal
 15 years. From any amount appropriated to carry out this
 16 part for any such fiscal year, 5 percent shall be available
 17 to carry out subpart 2 of part E of title V.”.

18 (b) REPEALS.—Section 500, parts B, C, D, and F,
 19 and subpart 1 of part E, of title V of the Higher Edu-
 20 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101, 1103 et seq., 1104
 21 et seq., 1107 et seq., 1113 et seq., and 1111 et seq.) are
 22 repealed.

23 (c) MINORITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT.—Section
 24 580B of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 25 1112e) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 580B. ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “From any amount made available to carry out this
3 subpart pursuant to section 510, not more than two-thirds
4 shall be available to carry out programs under section 578,
5 and not less than one-third shall be available to carry out
6 programs under section 580A.”.

○